



The Library of Virginia has most of the extant original records of Virginia elections. These records are available to the general public. Given, however, the laborious process of reading the original manuscript records, this bibliography gathers the most important published sources of Virginia election returns on the federal and state level. It is a complement to Research Notes “Virginia Election Records: Presidential and Congressional Election Returns at the Library of Virginia” and “Virginia Election Records: Gubernatorial and State Election Returns at the Library of Virginia.”

Election returns have always been a topic of interest, especially for historical research.

The results of presidential elections have survived the test of time and are available from primary and many secondary sources. The Virginia election results for other offices were not as meticulously kept. There is a scarcity of early data. Some results survived as official returns, and some were published sporadically in contemporary newspapers as they became available. In some instances, the newspaper announcements constitute the only available returns. For a complete list of available official data for the early elections for the U.S. House of Representatives consult the book *United States Congressional Elections 1788–1997*. Results from the end of the nineteenth century to the present are readily available for all federal and state offices. Recent election results are readily accessible in a large number of published sources and Web sites.

The titles included in this bibliography are a selected list of official results and some highly acclaimed secondary works. In some instances, these titles constitute the only published source for certain elections.

For information on how to conduct this research consult: Martin, Fenton S., and Robert U. Goehlert. *How to Research Elections*. Washington, D.C.: CQ Press, 2000.

Virginia Election Records: Published Returns at the Library of Virginia

OFFICIAL RESULTS

The results published by the appropriate governmental agencies on the federal and/or state level are considered “official.”

Federal Elections [United States]. Washington, D.C.: Information Division, Federal Election Commission, U.S. Government Printing Office, 1982 –. (Microfiche). Y 3.EL 2/3:16/(DATE)

Results by state for the offices of the president and U.S. senators and by district for U.S. representatives.

National Archives and Records Administration. U.S. Electoral College.

<http://www.nara.gov/fedreg/elctcoll/index.html#top>

This site provides thorough coverage of presidential elections and provides tabulations of presidential returns by state, including candidates, electoral votes, popular votes, and election notes.

Official Election Results. Richmond: State Board of Elections, 1972–1995. Annual. JK3992 O34

Beginning in 1996, this publication continued on the Internet with the title *Election Results* available at the Web site of the State Board of Elections: <http://www.sbe.state.va.us/Election/results/Index.htm>

This publication covers all types of elections on the federal, state, and local level. In addition, the results are available by county, congressional district, and even down to the precinct level.

Report of the Secretary of the Commonwealth. Richmond: Secretary of the Commonwealth, 1902/3–present. JK3930 A26

The report contains results of the elections for the years 1905–1945 for the offices of the U.S. president and vice-president, U.S. senators, U.S. representatives, governors, lieutenant governors, attorneys general, state legislators, and other statewide offices. Results are tabulated by counties, cities, and congressional districts.

Statement of the Vote Cast in the Commonwealth of Virginia for... Richmond: Secretary of the Commonwealth, Division of Purchase and Printing, 1928–1946. JK3993[year] A5

A printed statement of votes cast in each election year, published by the secretary of the commonwealth. This publication covers all types of elections on the federal, state, and local level. Results are listed by counties and cities. Title varies.

Statement of the Vote Cast in the Commonwealth of Virginia for... Richmond: Board of Elections. 1948–1970. JK3993[year] A5

A printed statement of votes cast in each election year, published by the secretary of the state board of elections. This publication covers all levels of elections on the federal, state and local level. Results are listed by counties and cities. Title varies.

Statistics of the Presidential and Congressional Election. Showing the Highest Vote for Presidential Electors... Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1920–1981. Y 1.2: E12/(date)

The Library of Virginia has copies for selected years. Available online at:

U.S. House of Representatives: Office of the Clerk 1920–2000

<http://clerk.house.gov/elections/elections.htm>

Since 1920, the Clerk of the House has collected and published the official vote counts by state for the offices of the president, U.S. senators and U.S. representatives from the official sources among the various states and territories. (These documents, out-of-print for many years, have been collected and scanned to make them available to researchers and students on the Internet.)

Virginia State Board of Elections. *Statements of Votes, 1916–1960*. State government records collection, Richmond: Library of Virginia. Misc. Reel 386.

Manuscript record of statements of votes by counties and cities for the elections of U.S. senators and U.S. representatives.

UNOFFICIAL RESULTS

“Unofficial” results are those published in secondary sources, such as books compiled by editors and Web sites sponsored by institutions or commercial publishers.

The American Presidency

<http://gi.grolier.com/presidents/results/restable.html>

A table giving the electoral vote and popular vote for all presidential candidates from 1789 to 1996 on the national level from the Grolier Multimedia Encyclopedia.

America Votes: A Handbook of Contemporary American Election Statistics. Washington, D.C.: Congressional Quarterly, Biennial. JK1967 A8

Since 1956 this multi-volume publication provides data for the elections of U.S. presidents, U.S. senators, U.S. congressmen, and for state governors. Each volume covers one cycle of national elections.

Barone, Michael, et al. *State Legislative Elections: Voting Patterns and Demographics*. Washington, D.C.: Congressional Quarterly, 1998. JK1967 B38 1998

This work contains analysis and data on voting patterns in all state legislative elections in the 1990s, and provides a state-by-state examination of the political environment and comparison with demographic data.

Brace, Kimball W. *The Election Data Book: A Statistical Portrait of Voting in America*. Lanham, Md.: Bernan Press, 1992. JK1967 E44

An in-depth analysis on the county level of the 1992 presidential election.

Burnham, Walter Dean. *Presidential Ballots, 1836–1892*. Baltimore, Md.: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1955. JK524 B8

This book contains several essays discussing the elections of the period. Tables show the distribution of party control by counties, distribution of the vote by section and state, distribution of the vote by counties, and the electoral vote.

Dubin, Michael J. *United States Congressional Elections, 1788–1997. The Official Results of the 1st through 105th Congresses*. Jefferson, N.C.: McFarland and Company, Inc., 1998. JK1967 D77 1998

This is one of the most comprehensive books on election returns for the U.S. Congress. Results are listed by state and then by congressional districts for the House and after 1913 by state for the Senate. The sources of data for each election are painstakingly recorded, including issues of local newspapers for the early years and when and where available.

———. *United States Presidential Elections 1788–1860; The Official Results by County and State*. Jefferson, N.C.: McFarland and Company, Inc., 2002. JK524 D778 2002

A systematic and meticulous collection of data from original records in state archives. Given the scarcity of data and the difficulty of accessing the original material, this book is a very valuable source that gives figures of the popular vote on the state and county level.

Eisenberg, Ralph, and Larry Sabato. *Virginia Votes*. Charlottesville, Va.: University of Virginia, 1971–1998. JK3993 1924 E57

This is a series of volumes providing in-depth analysis of Virginia statewide political elections on the county and city levels. The co-author, Larry Sabato, is considered an authority on this subject.

Glashan, Roy R. *American Governors and Gubernatorial Elections, 1975–1978*. Westport, Conn.: Meckler Books, 1979. JK2447 G53

Data and statistics on the state level. This work is updated by the book of the same title below compiled by Marie Marmo Mullaney.

Gubernatorial Elections 1787–1997. Washington, D.C.: Congressional Quarterly, 1997. JK2447 G76 1998

A detailed presentation of gubernatorial elections by state and parties.

Jensen, Merrill, and Robert A. Becker. *The Documentary History of the First Federal Elections, 1788–1790*. Madison, Wis.: University of Wisconsin Press, 1976. JK171 A1 D6

An in-depth treatise of the workings of the first federal elections by state. The text explains the complexity of these elections, while tables provide various tabulations of the data.

Miller, Alan William. *The Atlas of Virginia Statewide General Elections: 1980–1994*. Richmond, Va.: Klipsan Press, 1995. JK3993 1980 M612

This work covers the elections for president, U.S. senator, governor, lieutenant governor, and attorney general. Maps and tables by county and city provide a picture of the voting patterns of the commonwealth.

Moore, John L., Jon P. Preismesberger, and David R. Tarr. *Congressional Quarterly's Guide to U.S. Elections*. Washington, D.C.: CQ Press, 2001. JK1967 C662 2001

An excellent overview of the history of the federal elections. Tables cover data on the state level.

Mullaney, Marie Marmo. *American Governors and Gubernatorial Elections, 1779–1887*. Westport, Conn.: Meckler, 1988. JK2447 M85 1988

This title updates the book by the same title above compiled by Roy R. Glashan.

Petersen, Svend. *A Statistical History of the American Presidential Elections*. New York: Frederick Ungar Publishing, 1963. JK1967 P4 1963

This title provides information for the presidential election for the period from 1789 to 1960. It has various tables analyzing the data for each of the fifty states and covers eleven political parties.

President Elect 1789–2000

<http://www.presidentelect.org/index.html>

Presidential returns by state with helpful graphics. No affiliation with an organization or an institution was detected. The author lists the sources used to compile the information on the Web site.

Presidential Elections, 1789–1996. Washington, D.C.: Congressional Quarterly, 1997. JK524 P678 1997

A treatise on the changing presidential selection process. Tables and maps cover the Electoral College results and the popular vote by state.

Robinson, Edgar Eugene. *The Presidential Vote, 1896–1932*. Stanford, Cal.: Stanford University Press, 1934. JK524 R6

Compilation of election returns by state and counties.

Rusk, Jerrod G. *A Statistical History of the American Electorate*. Washington, D.C.: CQ Press, 2001. JK1967 R87 2001

Results for the offices of the president, U.S. senators, and U.S. representatives are listed by state, party, and total vote. Numerous tables provide analysis of the data.

Scammon, Richard M. *America at the Polls: A Handbook of American Presidential Election Statistics, 1920–1964*. Pittsburgh, Pa.: University of Pittsburgh, 1965. JK524 G6

Scammon, Richard M., and Alice V. McGillivray. *America at the Polls 2: A Handbook of American Presidential Election Statistics, 1968–1984*. Washington, D.C.: Congressional Quarterly, 1988. JK524 S22 1988

The two books above provide data by state, party, total vote, and percentages.

U.S. Presidential Election Maps: 1860–1996 <http://fisher.lib.virginia.edu/elections/maps/index.html>

Maintained by the Geospatial and Statistical Data Center of the University of Virginia, this site provides results by state. Maps for each election year indicate the percentage of the popular vote and electoral vote distribution.

United States Presidential Elections

<http://www.uselectionatlas.org/>

The results are listed by state, and by year. This site has very helpful interactive maps and graphics that give the electoral vote, total vote, and percentages for each election. Because this is not an officially endorsed site some caution in using the graphics and information is advisable.

Virginia Election Data 1984–ongoing

<http://fisher.lib.virginia.edu/elections/va.elections/va.html>

The University of Virginia Geospatial and Statistical Data Center maintains this site. Results for the federal (president, vice-president, U.S. senators, and U.S. representatives) and state (governor, lieutenant governor, attorney general, state senators, and state delegates) offices are listed on this Web site. Data down to precinct level are available.

The Warrock-Richardson Almanack. Richmond: C. W. Saunders, 1845–1940. AY326 R5 W3

Results of the presidential and gubernatorial elections for the state of Virginia by county and city are published for the years 1845 through 1940.

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